



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: William N. WEAVER  
JoanRita A. SCHULTZ  
Peter L. SAMARAS  
Deepak H. MEHTA

Serial No.: 10/762,202

Filing Date: 21 January 2004

Title: FLEXIBLE CARRIER

**FIRST INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

**Mail Stop MISSING PARTS**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with Rule 1.56, references AA-AK listed on page 1, and references AA-AH listed on page 2 of the attached Form PTO-1449 were cited during prosecution of the patent application listed below, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120:

I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

28 May 2004

28 May 2004

Date

Manull J. Retun

Signature

Serial No.: 10/762,202

Title: FLEXIBLE CARRIER  
Applicants: William N. WEAVER et al.  
Serial No.: 10/705,023  
Filing Date: 10 November 2003  
Attorney Docket No.: ITW-13388

These references, as well as references AI-AK on page 2 of Form PTO-1449, are hereby brought to the attention of the Examiner as possibly being material to examination of the subject patent application.

Copies of these references are not enclosed as they are contained in the file of the related parent application and/or are U.S. patent publications. Form PTO-1449 (2 pages) is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,



Maxwell J. Petersen  
Registration No. 32,772

Pauley Petersen & Erickson  
2800 West Higgins Road; Suite 365  
Hoffman Estates, Illinois 60195  
TEL (847) 490-1400  
FAX (847) 490-1403

FORM PTO-1449  
(MODIFIED)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

ITW-13388.1

SERIAL NO.

10/762,202

**LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT(S)

William N. WEAVER et al.

FILING DATE

21 January 2004

GROUP

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5,538,790	07/1996	Arvedson et al.			
	AB	5,789,029	08/1998	Ramsey et al.			
	AC	3,778,096	12/1973	Smith			
	AD	4,116,331	09/1978	Curry et al.			
	AE	4,121,712	10/1978	Cunningham			
	AF	4,201,322	05/1980	Crawford			
	AG	4,219,117	08/1980	Weaver et al.			
	AH	4,385,691	05/1983	Klygis			
	AI	4,574,949	03/1986	Rhoads			
	AJ	4,709,808	12/1987	Balduff et al.			
	AK	4,740,415	04/1988	Hirschberger			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	AL							
	AM							
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							

**OTHER PRIOR ART** (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AR		
	AS		
	AT		

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

**\*EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

USCOMM-DC 80-3985

p1005.1/ cbs

FORM PTO-1449  
(MODIFIED)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

ITW-13388.1

SERIAL NO.

10/762,202

**LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT**  
(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT(S)

William N. WEAVER et al.

FILING DATE

21 January 2004

GROUP

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	4,795,767	01/1989	Turczyk et al.			
	AB	4,872,549	10/1989	Panzzolo			
	AC	4,915,217	04/1990	Karabedian et al.			
	AD	5,154,289	10/1992	Van Erden			
	AE	6,006,902	12/1999	Weaver			
	AF	6,056,115	05/2000	Olsen			
	AG	6,234,945 B1	05/2001	Weaver			
	AH	6,598,738 B2	07/2003	Weaver			
	AI	2002/0011423 A1	01/2002	Weaver			
	AJ	5,962,092	10/1999	Kuo et al.			
	AK	4,367,841	01/1983	Mazumdar			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	AL							
	AM							
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							

**OTHER PRIOR ART** (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AR		
	AS		
	AT		

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

**\*EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

USCOMM-DC 80-3985

p1005.1/ cbs